

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 presently are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-10 presently stand rejected.

The undersigned wishes to thank the Examiner for her time and courtesy during the telephonic interview that took place on November 23, 2004. The following discussion is intended to constitute a proper recordation of such interview in accordance with MPEP §713.04, and also to provide a full response to the Office Action mailed on September 1, 2004.

During the telephonic interview, the undersigned pointed out that the present invention is directed to a releasable retention device having a curved surface complementary to a curvature of a cylinder. The Examiner drew attention to Figure 5 of Zerillo (U.S. Patent No. 6,688,227), contending that it illustrates a curved retention device. The undersigned pointed out that Zerillo discloses a retention device having a surface that is flat and straight, as illustrated by Figure 3. Furthermore, Figure 5 does not contradict Figure 3, but merely presents a different perspective of the same retention device having a surface that is flat and straight. Accordingly, the undersigned argued that Zerillo fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-10 are not anticipated by Zerillo and, therefore, respectfully request that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.


CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the application and claims in light of the foregoing remarks, and respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite the allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,



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